

A New California Species of *Silis*¹
(Coleoptera: Cantharidae)

KENNETH M. FENDER

Linfield Research Institute
McMinnville, Oregon 97128

The interesting little *Silis*, herein described, was taken on a collecting trip in the San Bernardino Mountains by Frank M. Beer, Oregon State University, and me in 1969. The excellent revision of the genus by J. W. Green in 1966 permits the ready recognition of almost any male, except those in which Green himself admitted difficulties with species complexes. The terminology utilized here will follow pretty much that of Mr. Green.

***Silis (Silis) greeni* Fender, new species**
(Figs. 1-4)

Black. Pronotum pale rufous, explanate anterior and anterolateral margins paler; head in front of antennae and basal two antennal segments testaceous beneath; thorax pale rufous beneath; pubescence cinereous, depressed, fine, short and inconspicuous. Length 5 mm.

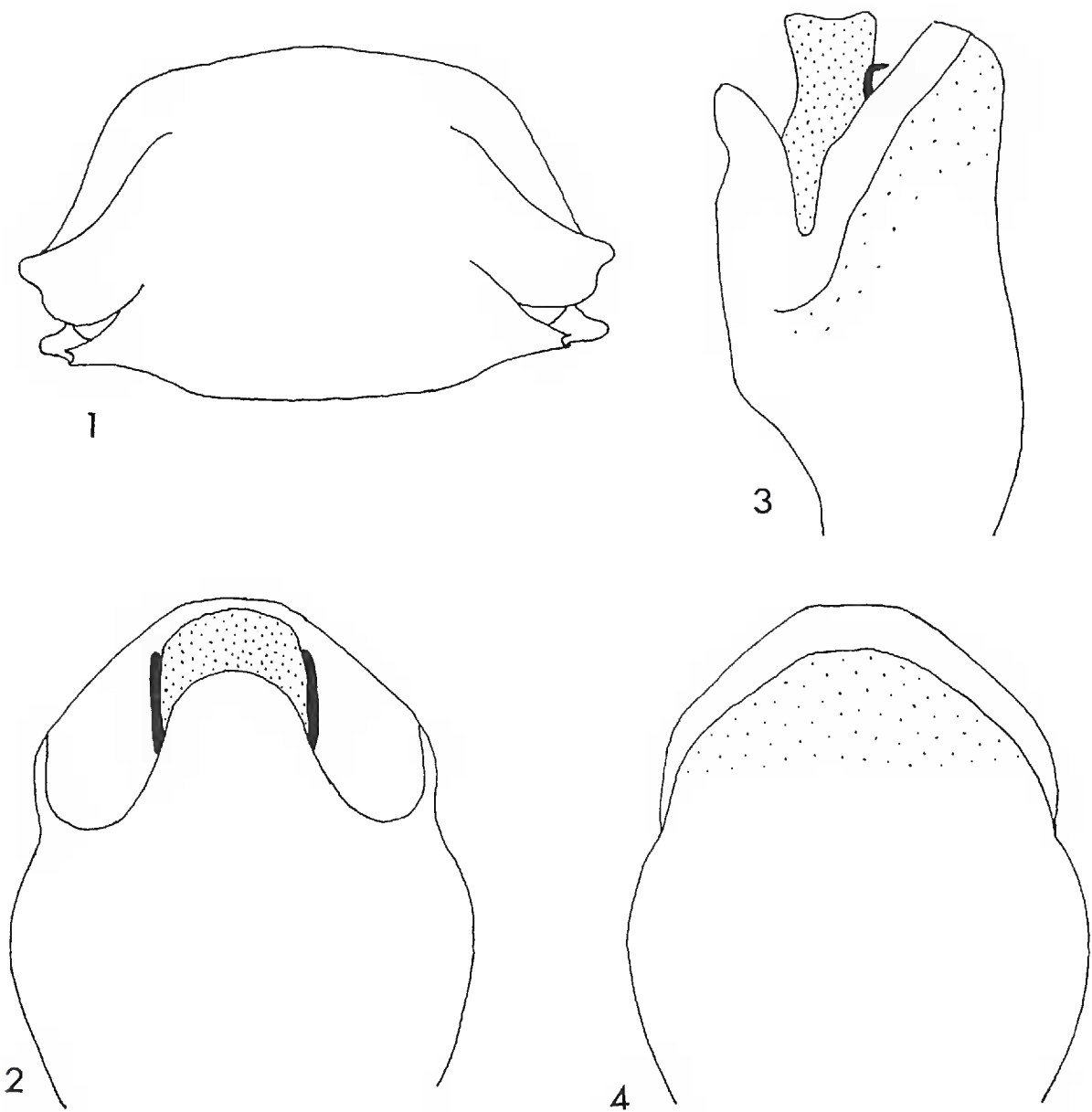
MALE.—Length : width ratio about 2.75 : 1. Antennae slender, filiform, nearly as long as body, intermediate segments about four times as long as wide, vestiture short and decumbent. Pronotum (Fig. 1), anterior process broad, elevated, somewhat backwardly extended, with small marginal indentation towards outer side; excision of lateral margin narrow; apical margin of posterior process shallowly concave. Genitalia (Figs. 2-4). Dorsal plate not emarginate, apically rounded; laterophyses short, acute, abruptly turned up near apices, not very conspicuous, not extending beyond apical margin of dorsal plate when viewed from above; basophyses concealed in type.

FEMALE. Unknown.

Holotype male, SEVEN OAKS, SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, 5,250 ft., 27 June 1969, collected by F. M. Beer and K. M. Fender, in the collection of the California Academy of Sciences.

This species is most closely related to *S. arizonica* Van Dyke and *S. fenestrata* Van Dyke. From each of these it may be separated by the broad, somewhat backwardly extended anterior process with a small indentation towards the outer side. The anterior process has a narrow backward extension without an indentation towards the outer side in *S. arizonica* and *S. fenestrata*. The laterophyses are conspicuous and extend beyond the apical margin of the dorsal plate when viewed

¹ This study was supported by National Science Foundation Grant: GB-6283X.



FIGS. 1-4. *Silis (Silis) greeni* Fender, holotype. FIG. 1. pronotum, dorsal view. FIG. 2. male genitalia, ventral view. FIG. 3. same, lateral view. FIG. 4. same, dorsal view.

from above in *S. arizonica* and *S. fenestrata*. The male of *S. fenestrata* has the pronotum pale fulvous with all margins black.

This species is named for Mr. J. W. Green in acknowledgment of his fine work with the Lycidae, Lampyridae and Cantharidae.

LITERATURE CITED

- GREEN, J. W. 1966. Revision of the Nearctic species of *Silis* (Cantharidae: Coleoptera). Proc. Calif. Acad. Sci., 32(16): 447-513; 65 figs.